

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A process for treating palm waste comprising the steps of:
 - a) shredding palm fibrous waste;
 - b) blending the shredded palm fibrous waste with a dried plant mill effluent and peat.
2. A process according to claim 1 wherein the palm fibrous waste is an oil palm waste selected from the group consisting of oil palm fronds, empty oil palm bunches, oil palm trunks, oil palm fibre and shell stripped from oil palm bunches.
3. A process according to claim 1 wherein the palm fibrous waste is a date palm waste selected from the group consisting of date palm fronds, empty date palm bunches, date palm trunks, date palm fibre and shell stripped from date palm bunches.
4. A process according to claim 1 wherein the palm fibrous waste is a coconut palm waste selected from the group consisting of coconut palm fronds, coconut palm trunks and coconut palm husks.
5. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the palm fibrous waste material includes palm fronds shredded to an average size in the range of from 2mm to 10mm.
6. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the palm fibrous waste material includes palm trunks shredded to an average size in the range of from 10mm to 50mm.
7. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein the palm fibrous waste material includes empty palm bunches shredded to an average size in the range of from 2mm to 10mm.
8. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein the dried plant mill mud is selected from the group consisting of dried sugar cane mill mud, dried oil palm mill effluent and dried date palm mill effluent.
9. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein the peat is a "non-sphagnum peat".
10. A process according to claim 9 wherein the peat is selected from peat derived from sedges or trees, cocoa peat, Indonesian peat and Malaysian peat.
11. A process according to any one of claim 1 to 10 wherein the shredded palm fibrous waste, dried plant mill effluent and peat are blended in a rotating bowl mixer.

12. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 11 wherein the dried effluent and the shredded fibrous material are blended with peat in presence of a wetting agent.

13. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 12 wherein the shredded fibrous palm material is present in the blend in the range of from 10% to 20% by volume.

14. A process according to claim 13 wherein the shredded fibrous palm material is present in the blend in the range of from 15% to 20%.

15. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 14 wherein the volume ratio of peat:dried effluent is in the range of from 50:50 to 75:25.

16. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 15 wherein the volume ratio of peat:dried effluent is in the range of from 60:40 to 70:30.